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road may grades exceed four-tenths of 1 per cent or curves be sharper than 4 degrees. The principle that "the level line wins" has been vigorously adhered to, and for the first 60 miles through the Cascade Mountains the grade does not rise an inch—an unparalleled engineering triumph. Mr. Talbot's estimate of "some \$100,000,000" (p. 327) to cover the cost of construction of the railroad is wide of the mark, having been exceeded already by the expenditure on that section of the road which is being constructed by the government. The total cost will undoubtedly be at least two and one-half or three times his estimate. The predicted cost of freight per bushel of wheat from Winnipeg to Quebec on the Grand Trunk Pacific should be 4.25 cents instead of "\$4.25 (17s. 8d)." (p. 337), although, even with this correction, the estimate should be taken *cum grano salis*.

In brief, the book gives an interesting and timely popular account of a great national undertaking.

Making Both Ends Meet. By SUE AINSLIE CLARK and EDITH WYATT.
New York: Macmillan, 1911. 8vo, pp. xiii+270. \$1.50 net.

In their book entitled *Making Both Ends Meet* Mrs. Clark and Miss Wyatt give an almost photographic record of experiences from the lives of a large number of New York working girls who had been interviewed in behalf of an inquiry carried on by the National Consumers' League. As is truly stated in the preface, such a book must necessarily be a compilation, put down from the words of the workers themselves, and by this very fact it becomes a great deal more interesting. The story of the shirtwaist-makers' strike told by one of the strikers, Natalya Ursonova, the conditions in New York laundries witnessed by three college women who went into the work for purposes of investigation, the home life of the workers as described by them and seen by the investigators, all make for that graphic writing which most readily enlists the sympathy of the reader. It is not written from a partisan point of view. Both employer and employee are treated with fairness, though, of course, not in such a way as to obscure the purpose of the book—to make evident the misery of great numbers of skilled and unskilled women workers.

The chief difficulties are clearly stated: seasonal work, fatigue from speeding, monotony, long hours, lack of regulation. But little can be suggested to remedy some of these evils, at least under present conditions. From the nature of the trade they become an organic part of it. Such is the seasonal character of suit-making and millinery, the excessive crowding of work into a few days of the week in laundries, monotony and speeding in machine work.

One remedy is suggested in the last chapter: the application of scientific management to women's work. The method and its workings, in the three cases where it has been used, are fully described. In the main, results are good. Three cases, however, form only a very narrow basis for judgment. But in each case one very valuable result has been a sense of candor and

co-operation on both sides; "a tendency toward truth about industry, toward justice, toward a clean personal record of work established without fear or favor." Perhaps the further development and application of the method will give a solution of some of the problems which beset working women.

The Spirit of Social Work. Nine Addresses. By EDWARD T. DEVINE.

New York: Charities Publication Committee, 1911. 12mo, pp. xi+231. \$1.00.

To anyone who is interested in social work Mr. Devine's name will be sufficient introduction to this book. But a special interest is added through the fact that this little collection of addresses purposed to give the spirit, the motive force of Mr. Devine's work. The book is dedicated to social workers, since "to them the unity of the problems which it discusses will be apparent." But one need not be a trained worker either to feel the force of his plea for the conservation of human life, or to understand his demand for a new penology which shall correct and prevent crime and which involves the socialization of the police force.

Running through all these addresses is the desire that the public shall be made to know and think about the conditions that are the cause of so much of all charity organization work: first, the exploitation of workers, men, women, and children; second, congestion with all its attendant evils; third, our unsocial attitude toward the criminal which merely attempts here and there to punish crime instead of preventing and correcting it. To do this work, he desires the aid of the churches, of the strong men in the community, of woman suffrage, in fact of every available force, for it is no easy task which the social worker has before him. The trend of present conditions is toward even greater congestion and worse exploitation. Yet the author believes that counter-acting forces are strong enough so that the net results will be an advance.

To anyone who desires to be in touch with this movement, "whether on his own individual account or as a part of an organized movement—working consciously, according to his light intelligently, and according to his strength persistently, for the promotion of the common welfare" to him the book must certainly prove a help in carrying out that purpose.

The Almshouse, Construction and Management. By ALEXANDER JOHNSON. New York: Charities Publication Committee, 1911. 8vo, pp. x+263. \$1.25 postpaid.

The wide experience of the author as inspector of almshouses, his work as superintendent of an institution for defectives, and his connection with the National Conference of Charities and Correction, give him a right to speak with authority. In consequence of this experience, too, his treatment of the subject is eminently that of a man who has faced its working problems. Problems of function, of name, of location, construction, numbers and classes